

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A video processing system that shoots video of moving objects at a plurality of points, extracts 5 intended scenes, and compiles the extracted scenes into a video product, the system comprising:

(a) a plurality of video recording units, each of which comprises:

10 a fixed camera that captures video of each passing moving object, and

a video storage controller that stores video data including the captured video of the moving objects and time stamps that indicate at what time each part of the video was captured;

15 (b) a plurality of time measurement units deployed at checkpoints, each of which measures checkpoint passage time of each passing moving object and stores checkpoint time records including the measured checkpoint passage times and identifiers of the individual moving 20 objects; and

(c) a video authoring unit that searches the video data stored in said video recording units to find and extract scenes of one of the moving objects, using the checkpoint time records in association with the time 25 stamps in the video data, and compiles the extracted scenes into a video product.

2. The video processing system according to
claim 1, wherein said video authoring unit creates index
files containing time stamp numbers that derive from the
checkpoint time records and uses the index files to find
5 scenes of one of the moving objects that is specified.

3. The video processing system according to
claim 1, wherein said video authoring unit produces and
uses a video configuration file that contains parameters
10 including at least one of video shooting section,
checkpoint, and video record start time and length,
whereby said video authoring unit can extract scenes in
various ways.

15 4. The video processing system according to
claim 3, wherein:

two or more of said video recording units are
placed around one of the checkpoints; and

20 using the video configuration file, said video
authoring unit extracts a plurality of video clip files
from the video data that has been captured at said one of
the checkpoints.

25 5. The video processing system according to
claim 1, wherein said video recording units insert
identifiers into the video data in association with the
checkpoint passage times to identify the individual moving

objects.

6. A video processor that retrieves motion pictures from video data using shooting time data and
5 checkpoint passage data, the video data having been captured by a fixed point camera that is placed at a predetermined distance from a checkpoint, the shooting time data indicating at what time each part of the video data was captured, the checkpoint passage data associating
10 a time record that indicates at what time a subject passed the checkpoint with an identifier of the subject, the video processor comprising:

a time record retrieval unit that searches the checkpoint passage data to find a time record associated
15 with a given identifier; and

a video record retrieval unit that identifies shooting time data having a predetermined temporal relationship with the time record that is found and searches the video data for a scene that corresponds to
20 the shooting time data identified.

7. A video recording unit which shoots video of moving objects, comprising:

a fixed camera; and
25 a video storage controller that stores motion pictures of the moving objects captured by said fixed camera, together with time stamps that indicate at what

time the motion pictures were captured.

8. The video recording unit according to
claim 7, wherein said video storage controller inserts
5 identifiers into the video data in association with the
checkpoint passage times, to identify the individual
moving objects.

9. A video authoring unit which extracts
10 intended scenes and compiles into a video product,
comprising:

a video record retrieval unit that automatically
searches stored video data to find and extract scenes of
the moving object, using time stamps in association with
15 checkpoint time records that include identifiers and
checkpoint passage times of moving objects; and

a video compilation unit that compiles the
extracted scenes into a video product.

20 10. The video authoring unit according to
claim 9, wherein said video record retrieval unit creates
index files containing time stamp numbers that derive from
the checkpoint time records and uses the index files to
find scenes of one of the moving objects that is specified.

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11. The video authoring unit according to
claim 9, wherein said video compilation unit produces and

uses a video configuration file that contains parameters including at least one of video shooting section, checkpoint, and video record start time and length, whereby said video compilation unit can extract scenes in 5 various ways.

12. The video authoring unit according to claim 11, wherein said video authoring unit, using the video configuration file, extracts a plurality of video 10 clip files from the video data captured at one checkpoint.

13. A video processing method that shoots video of moving objects at a plurality of checkpoints, extracts intended scenes, and compiles the extracted 15 scenes into a video product, comprising the steps of:

(a) taking video of the moving objects with fixed cameras;

20 (b) storing video data that includes the video of the moving objects and time stamps indicating at what time each part of the video was taken;

(c) at the plurality of checkpoints, recording passage time of each moving object;

25 (d) storing checkpoint time records that include the passage times and identifiers of the moving objects;

(e) automatically extracting scenes of one of the moving object, based the checkpoint time records in

association with the time stamps in the stored video data;
and

(f) compiling the extracted scenes into a
video product.

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14. The video processing method according to
claim 13, wherein said extracting step (e) creates index
files containing time stamp numbers that derive from the
checkpoint time records and uses the index files to find
10 scenes of one of the moving objects that is specified.

15. The video processing method according to
claim 13, wherein said extracting step (e) produces and
uses a video configuration file that contains parameters
15 including at least one of video shooting section,
checkpoint, and video record start time and length,
whereby said extracting step (e) can extract scenes in
various ways.

20 16. The video processing method according to
claim 15, wherein:

two or more fixed cameras are placed around one of
the checkpoints; and

25 using the video configuration file, said
extracting step (e) extracts a plurality of video clip
files from the video that has been taken at said one of
the checkpoints.

17. The video processing method according to
claim 13, further comprising the step of inserting
identifiers into the video data in association with the
5 checkpoint passage times to identify the individual moving
objects.

18. A sports video processing method that
shoots video of a sports game or race in which
10 participating athletes change locations with time along a
given course and compiles video scenes of a particular
athlete into a personalized video product, the method
comprising the steps of:

(a) taking video of all the athletes along the
15 course, using video recording units each having a fixed
camera which are placed at a plurality of places on the
course;

(b) storing video data that includes the video
of the athletes and time stamps indicating at what time
20 each part of the video was taken;

(c) recording passage time of every athlete
who passes each of a plurality of checkpoints on the
course and storing checkpoint time records that include
the passage times and identifiers of the athletes;

25 (d) out of the stored video data including the
time stamps, automatically extracting scenes of each
particular athlete passing the checkpoints, based on the

checkpoint time records; and

(e) producing a personalized video product by writing the extracted scenes into a video storage medium.

5 19. The sports video processing method according to claim 18, wherein said extracting step (d) creates index files containing time stamp numbers that derive from the checkpoint time records and uses the index files to find the scenes of each particular athlete that
10 is specified.

20 20. The sports video processing method according to claim 18, wherein said extracting step (d) produces and uses a video configuration file that contains
15 parameters including at least one of video shooting section, checkpoint, and video record start time and length, whereby said extracting step (d) can extract scenes in various ways.

20 21. The sports video processing method according to claim 20, wherein:

two or more video recording units are placed around one of the checkpoints; and

25 using the video configuration file, said extracting step (d) extracts a plurality of video clip files from the video data that has been taken at said one of the checkpoints.

22. The sports video processing method according to claim 18, wherein further comprising the step of inserting identifiers into the video data in 5 association with the checkpoint passage times to identify the individual athletes.